

*Please amend claims 1 and 21 as follows:*

*Dab BT* 1. (Amended) A master scheduler arranged to control a near-video-on-demand (NVOD) system, the master scheduler comprising:  
a schedule management system arranged to receive and validate a schedule; and  
a content manager system arranged to monitor and control the loading of assets into a video server according to the validated schedule, wherein the assets include video content scheduled for staggered transmission to subscribers of the NVOD system using a plurality of channels, the plurality of channels including a test channel dedicated for testing a selected asset,  
wherein the content manager includes a graphical user interface configured to allow an administrator to view the selected asset using the test channel to verify the integrity of the selected asset loaded into the video server.

*A1* 21. (Amended) A method for validation of scheduling information comprising:  
receiving at a master scheduler said scheduling information from a schedule provider;  
receiving an asset from an asset provider;  
loading said asset into a video server;  
obtaining asset information from said video server;  
comparing said asset information to said scheduling information;